

the oppression of Communism to being one of the most dynamic democracies of Europe. On my multiple visits over the years to Bulgaria, I have always been inspired by the extraordinary people who have overcome totalitarianism for liberty and freedom. Bulgaria is a cherished partner of America, and we want the best for this nation of historic treasures.

HONORING CHESTER HUGHES, JR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Illustrious Potentate of the Oman Temple No. 72, Chester Hughes, Jr. Chester will be feted at the 53rd Annual Potentate Ball to be held in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, on Saturday, October 3rd.

Chester Hughes received his B.S. degree from Jackson State University and his M.S. degree from Eastern Michigan University. He has taught at schools in Mississippi and Michigan, retiring from Beecher Community Schools in 2003 with 37 years of service. He served as the Regional Director of Amicus II during 2006–2007 and works part time at Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home. He is also the CEO of the Hughes Educational Leadership Institute and a PrePaid Legal Insurance Associate/Distributor.

Chester is affiliated with many community organizations and has received numerous awards from the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, the Central Optimist Club, the Flint Inner City Lions Club, the Flint Pan-Hellenic Club, the Urban League of Flint, and the Beecher School System. He has held several positions with the Oman Temple No. 72 and the Masonic Order. The 33 degree was conferred on him on May 26, 2008. Chester and his wife Myra have 2 children, DeWana Denise Hughes-McCarty and Chelonde Nichelle Hughes.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to applaud the life and work of Chester Hughes, Jr. I congratulate him on his elevation to Illustrious Potentate and may he continue to serve the community for many, many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF RICK DANIELS FOR HIS EFFORTS TO SAVE THE LIFE OF SAVANNA ZIRBEL

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, Rick Daniels of Kankakee, Illinois would tell you he is not a hero, but on Friday, July 3, 2009, he did something heroic.

Rick Daniels conducts himself not unlike the many great citizens of Illinois' 11th Congressional District. He is a normal guy. On July 3rd, he saw a neighbor in trouble. Although he is not a trained paramedic, he saw that 20-month old Savanna Zirbel was seriously injured from a mowing accident and sprang to action. Rick Daniels administered lifesaving first aid until paramedics arrived.

Some in this situation may have been scared to help, but Rick did not hesitate to assist. He focused on what might have happened if he had chosen to simply be an observer. The consequences were life and death. Savanna Zirbel is alive because of Rick Daniel rose to the occasion.

America's history has been one of ordinary individuals doing extraordinary things. Rick Daniels reminds us that we are capable of doing heroic things. On behalf of the entire 11th Congressional District, we thank Rick Daniels for his amazing efforts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE APARTMENT ASSOCIATION OF GREATER DALLAS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Apartment Association of Greater Dallas (AAGD).

Founded in 1959 by a small group of dedicated professionals, the Apartment Owners Association of Dallas sought to establish a communication forum to share information and foster professionalism for the growing multi-family industry. Since then the organization has grown to over 1,000 members, representing members across 11 counties in North Texas and over 35 municipalities. Members of AAGD are wholeheartedly committed to providing quality and affordable housing for all apartment residents. They are also responsible for managing over 1,890 properties representing 435,000 rental units, which consists of more than 90 percent of the apartments and rental homes in the Dallas area.

As the nation's largest member based local apartment association, they are specifically devoted to the advancement of its members within the apartment industry ranging from legislative representation to education and certification programs to community service projects as well as a wide range of communication tools. Also functioning as a trade association, AAGD is dedicated to upholding and promoting the highest professional standards in the apartment industry.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in celebrating AAGD's 50th anniversary. Congratulations to AAGD on fifty years of dedicated service to the multifamily industry! I know their hard work and commitment to quality and affording living has benefited the many residents of apartment homes managed by AAGD members.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE SERGEANT TIMOTHY SMITH OF SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Timothy Smith of South Lake Tahoe, CA, who was killed in the line of duty

on April 7, 2007. Tim is survived by his wife Shayna Richard-Smith, their son Riley, his parents, Patricia and Michael, his brother Tom, and his sister Jackie.

Tim graduated from South Tahoe High School in 2001 and joined the Army in April 2004. He will always be remembered for his sense of humor, his warmth, and his great courage. Senator HARRY REID, on the floor of the United States Senate, called Tim Smith "a hero—a real-life American hero—who gave his life so that others might be safe."

Timothy Smith gave the ultimate sacrifice, may we never forget.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING ERIN METZGER FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, Erin Metzger showed hard work and dedication to the sport of softball; and

Whereas, Erin Metzger was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Erin Metzger always displayed sportsmanship on and off the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Erin Metzger on winning the Girls' Division IV State Softball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 softball season.

HONORING GENE TUNNEY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to honor the life of Gene Tunney, who served as Sonoma County District Attorney for 20 years. Mr. Tunney passed away August 9, 2009, with his family at his side.

Born in New York City in 1931, Mr. Tunney was the son of the famous heavyweight boxing champion James Joseph "Gene" Tunney and brother of California Congressman and Senator John Tunney. After a stint in the Army, he moved to the Bay Area where he enrolled in law school in San Francisco. In 1971, he began his first job in Sonoma County as a Deputy Public Defender. A few years later he ran for District Attorney, narrowly winning the race. He served in that office for five more terms, from 1974 to 1994.

Mr. Tunney is credited with modernizing and professionalizing the District Attorney's office, guiding its transition in an era of increasingly urban types of crime. He placed restrictions on plea bargains and reviewed all felony cases while becoming an advocate for victims of crime. He was highly regarded for his sense of justice and for bringing changes to offices around the state after co-founding the California District Attorney's Association.